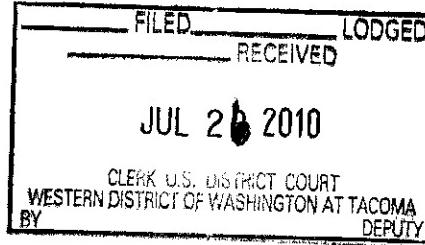


Judge Leighton

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ORIGINAL

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT TACOMA

UNDER SEAL,

Relator,

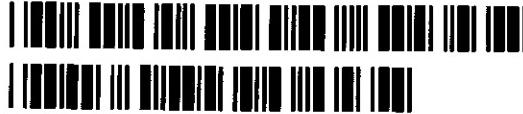
No. C09-5301 RBL

v.

UNDER SEAL,

Defendants.

FILED UNDER SEAL



09-CV-05301-ORD

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
700 STEWART STREET, SUITE 5220
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101-1271
(206) 553-7970

Judge Leighton

ORIGINAL

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT TACOMA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, *ex rel.*
CRAIG THOMAS,

V. Relator,

No. C09-5301 RBL

SOUND INPATIENT PHYSICIANS, INC., and
ROBERT A. BESSLER,

FILED UNDER SEAL

Defendants.

ORDER

The United States has filed an *Ex Parte* Motion for an Extension of time to Consider Election to Intervene, in which the government seeks a six (6) month extension of time, from July 21, 2010 up to and including January 21, 2011 in which to notify the Court whether it intends to intervene in this *qui tam* lawsuit. Such an extension of time is expressly contemplated by the False Claims Act, which provides that the United States “may, for good cause shown move the Court for extensions of time. . . .” 13 U.S.C. § 3730(b)(3). The Court finds that such good cause exists here.

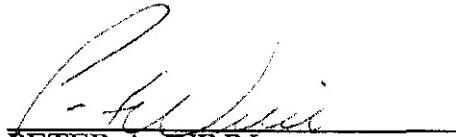
Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED that the United States shall have until January 21, 2011 to notify the Court of its decision whether or not to intervene in this *qui tam* action. The Clerk shall otherwise maintain the Complaint and other filings under seal for the duration of the

1 government's investigation, unless otherwise ordered by the Court.
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DATED this 26th day of July, 2010..

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6 RONALD B. LEIGHTON
7 United States District Judge
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Presented by:

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11 PETER A. WINN
12 Assistant United States Attorney
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